

REMARKS

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to numerous claims because of informalities. Applicant has amended these claims as far as possible to overcome the Examiner's objections and respectfully requests withdrawal of these objections

35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103 Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 14, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Arisaka, claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arisaka in view of Noda, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,827,586), and indicated that 4-7, 9, 11-13, and 15-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The claims that are rejected include independent claims 1, 10, and 14. Applicant has included the limitations of claim 4 into claim 1 and claim 4 has been deleted. Similarly, claim 10 has been amended with the limitations of claim 11, which are the same limitations as claim 4. Claims 1 and 10 should thus be allowable for the reasons given by the Examiner. Applicant has not made substantial changes to claim 14. However, it appears that claim 14 already includes the limitations of claim 4 and should thus be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 as amended. Applicant submits that claims 1, 10, and 14 each include limitations that are not suggested by Arisaka. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the remaining rejections against the claims and allowance of the patent application.

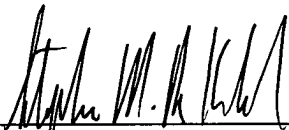
Please note that the amendments have been made without prejudice and applicant may file a continuation application with broader claims than the claims that will be on file after entry of this amendment.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Stephen M. De Klerk, at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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